

Claims:

1. A composition comprising an inositolphosphoglycan (IPG) or an IPG synthetic analogue and ribose.

5 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the IPG is a P-type IPG.

3. The composition of claim 1 wherein the synthetic analogue is a P-type IPG synthetic analogue.

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Sub C 4. ~~The composition of any one of the preceding claims, further comprising adenosine or purine, or a nucleotide precursor thereof.~~

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5. The composition of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the composition is a liquid composition.

6. The composition of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the composition is a powder or concentrate from which a
20 liquid composition can be prepared.

7. A composition of any one the preceding claims for use in a method of medical treatment.

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8. Use of an inositolphosphoglycan (IPG) or an IPG synthetic analogue for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of an ischaemic-reperfusion injury.

9. The use of claim 8 wherein the IPG is a P-type IPG.

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10. The use of claim 8 wherein the synthetic analogue is a P-type IPG synthetic analogue.

5 11. The use of any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the ischaemic-reperfusion injury arises from myocardial infarct, surgery or stroke.

10 12. The use of claim 11, wherein the surgery is open heart surgery, organ transplantation surgery, or heart or lung bypass surgery

13. The use of any one of claims 8 to 12, wherein the medicament is for the prevention of apoptosis following an ischaemic-reperfusion injury.

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14. The use of any one of claims 8 to 13 wherein the medicament further comprises one or more of:

- (a) adenosine or purine or a precursor thereof;
- (b) ribose;
- 20 (c) nicotinamide or derivatives thereof;
- (d) a Ca^{2+} ion uptake inhibitor;
- (e) a cardioplegic solution;
- (f) means to maintain the glutathione system, such as glutathione peroxidase and the reduced form
25 of glutathione (GSH); or,
- (g) an endothelin inhibitor.

15. An *in vitro* method for preserving an organ for transplantation, the method comprising contacting the
30 organ with a composition of any one of claims 1 to 7.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the composition is perfused through the organ.

5 17. The method of claim 15 wherein the organ is stored in the composition prior to transplantation.